

**Amendments to the Specification**

At page 29 in the specification, please amend the paragraph in lines 15-23 as shown below.

**-- 9-4) Length of Root Epidermal Cells in Transgenic Seedlings**

Wild-type and homozygous transgenic seeds were incubated on 1.5% (w/v) agar plates (pH 4.5) in an inclined position at 45°C to encounter the obstacle-touching stress. The seeds were incubated under long-day condition (16-hour light/8-hour dark) at 26°C. The lengths of the epidermal cells in their roots and stems were measured 17 days after germination. The cell length was measured using the NIH image software (developed by the United States National Institute of Health and available on the Internet at <http://rsb.info.nih.gov/nihimage>). --